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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 15 | Humidity 51% Generally cloudy sky Sensex 59,831 | Nifty 17,738 | Gold 50,517 | Silver 57,525 | Dollar 82.78 | Euro 81.68 | GBP 93.73

INFRA CHECK

Parking at Freedom Park

PAGE 4

WHERE IS IT?

People's biodiversity register

PAGE 5

Abrupt closure of decades-old cooperative nursery at Lalbagh by horticulture dept risks future of over 350 dependent nurseries, livelihoods of 2,000 people

KA-BLOOM!

40 employees of TNCSL-run nursery in shock

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Karnataka horticulture department has closed the nursery maintained by The Nurserymen Cooperative Society Limited (TNCSL) at Lalbagh botanical gardens.

Consequently, hundreds of families are expected to be affected directly and indirectly. The nursery supports around 300 nurseries in and around Bengaluru by being a platform between the buyers and other nurseries.

The horticulture department locked the gate of the nursery on Friday evening, that too after office hours. Around 40 people, working at the nursery maintained by the TNCSL, were in for a rude shock when they came in for duty on Saturday morning.

"I never expected the horticulture department to lock the gate. I have been working here for more than three decades. Who will give me a job if the nursery is closed? I have to feed my mother, wife and daughter apart from paying house rent. I do not know what is in store for me," said Prasanna SR, an employee of TNCSL.

The employees came on Saturday, Sunday and Monday expecting the horticulture department to open the nursery gate but in vain. "We want the TNCSL management committee and the department of horticulture to sort out the issues in the interest of hundreds of people dependent on the nursery maintained by the TNCSL," said an employee pleading anonymity.

As mentioned, the closure of the nursery maintained by the TNCSL is expected to have an adverse impact on people working at hundreds of nurseries in and around Bengaluru. "Closure of the nursery maintained by the TNCSL will affect the livelihoods of hundreds of people. I own four nurseries and provide

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **"I have been working here for more than three decades. Who will give me a job if the nursery is closed?**
>
> — Prasanna SR, nursery staff

ORR fiasco: final fix?

BBMP's temporary fix and permanent solution to flooding in Outer Ring Road

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Back in September, when heavy rains pummelled the metropolis, the outer ring road (ORR) near RMZ Ecospace witnessed unprecedented flooding resulting in massive damage that exposed the pitiable state of urban infra.

Now the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is to build a culvert across the ORR which could help ease the flow of water and reduce flooding in the next six months.

Approximately, Rs 12 crore has been allocated to the BBMP stormwater drain (SWD) department to construct the aforesaid culvert. The tender has been floated. Once it is approved and assigned, the culvert would be constructed across the outer ring road (ORR) from RMZ Ecospace to the Maruti showroom side.

The BBMP, we are told, is planning to start the work in a month and shall complete it within a six-month timeline. While the aforementioned is considered a permanent measure, for now, the BBMP has a temporary fix too, to check in case there comes another massive flooding.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Lit sesh

Attend the book reading of "Katzenberge" by the award-winning author Sabrina Janesch from Germany at the Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan Bangalore on Sunday. Sabrina Janesch, born in Gifhorn in 1985, lives with her family in Münster and spent her childhood between Germany and Poland. She received numerous grants and awards for her novels, for e.g., the Mara Cassens Award (2010), the Anna Seghers Award (2011) and the Annette-von-Droste-Hülshoff Award in 2017. Sabrina Janesch's novels have received excellent reviews in international and national newspapers, she is a Spiegel bestselling author and winner of the renowned Annette-von-Droste-Hülshoff Award.
Where: Goethe-Institut / Max Mueller Bhavan
When: October 30, 6 pm
Entry: Free, 80 22511300/33/55/77/99

02 Halloween horror

Check out SOCIAL's House of Horror at Indiranagar SOCIAL. This is a Halloween-special two-room party. Room 1 will have Rishi Sippy, G.S.T, Skye, and They've while Room 2 will have Chaz, Delika & Klenxch. Genres include House and Techno. **W Where: Indiranagar Social**
When: Oct 29, 8pm onwards; Tickets: Insider.in

03 Theatre for the soul

The Madras Players and Chennai Art Theatre present "Dear Omana: Notes On how to be a Literary Sensation". It's a play by Krishna Shastri Devulapalli, adapted and directed by Nikhila Kesavan. Dear Omana unfolds as letters exchanged between a struggling writer, Krishna Shastri Devulapalli, and a bestselling author, Omana Banerjee. A tale of passion, revenge and sales returns, Dear Omana is for anyone who ever wanted notes on how to be a literary sensation. **Where: Ranga Shankara**
When: October 30, at 3.30 pm and 7.30 pm
Tickets: bookmyshow.com

Experts, parents happy over pre-school mandate

Educationists and guardians say that the rule will help make learning play-based and help bring in uniformity in structure

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PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Experts say children from different backgrounds will get access to a universal curriculum with this move

Educationists and parents in Bengaluru have welcomed the Centre's decision to include pre-primary school within the formal schooling system. The National Education Policy 2020 proposed a 5+3+3+4 curricular structure which integrates early childhood care and education for all children of ages 3 to 8. Educationists said that early childhood lays the foundation for life-long learning and development.

Dr Ted Mockrish (Head of School, Canadian International School) said that it was also noteworthy that the focus on learning in these pre-primary years will be play-based. Focusing on overall development including fine and gross motor skills, social and emotional development, cognition, communication and problem solving all through play and interaction is the most developmentally appropriate approach to set young students up for success in future years of learning. Training teachers and school leaders in this approach is critical to ensure a move away from test-centric approaches that are inappropriate developmentally.

Parents are equally happy. Earlier, there were no rules for pre-primary classes and parents were forced to admit kids at a few centres which had no recognition. "We hope that the government steps in to provide an affiliation model so that all the pre-primary classes are brought under the regulatory ambit," said Naveen S, a parent.

However, Pruthvi Banwasi, (secretary, Karnataka Council of Pre-Schools) said that it was nothing new.

It is being presented as if it's completely new and a discovery that the pre-school children are going to be exposed to a brand-new concept. It would have been better if the ministers and the bureaucrats understand that there have been pedagogies for more than 100 years, be it montessori or other methods, which have in-depth science behind their methods. There are materials that have been prepared for each sense organ and learning according to the sensitive periods and age, he explained.

"I wonder why this is being disclosed as a new discovery. I have personally met three education ministers in the past and none of them were worried about the methodology or the psychology of the child. We had even tried to tell them that this is a crucial mental development age and we need to take this into the anganwadis and other schools but in vain. I feel that it's good that someone somewhere is thinking in this direction, but this is pure ignorance that it's new. However, there is confusion on the basic applicability for permissions. Just by changing nomenclature for first and second as pre-schools, the government cannot demand 20000 sq ft space for the preschool which applies to the primary schools," he said.

Meanwhile, Aloysius DMello (Principal of Greenwood High International School) said that it was needed to expose children to the local Indian milieu even while they continue to provide international education. The recommendations of the NCF are in line with this thought. Now children will experience physical development, life-energy, emotional and mental development and intellectual and spiritual development. This approach ensures children would get to imbibe the latest and current knowledge in the new curriculum and children coming from different social backgrounds will have access to a universal curriculum.

Karnataka Associated Managements of English Medium Schools (KAMS) general secretary D Shashi Kumar said that although this was a very important decision, the implementation will be a huge challenge as they do not have the required teachers who can teach pre-primary classes as the pedagogy is completely different.

Partial solar eclipse: Here's how you can see it

Sky-gazers, if you want to witness the much-talked-about partial solar eclipse on October 25, the Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium on Tuesday is making special arrangements for stargazers to witness the celestial show.

"The partial solar eclipse will be witnessed on October 25. It occurs when the moon comes in between the sun and the earth in such a manner that only a part of the sun is visible from the earth. Eclipse shouldn't be viewed with the naked eye; therefore, the planetarium is installing telescopes for the general public," said senior scientific officer.

A partial solar eclipse of small magnitude would occur for a short duration of 45 minutes - from 5:15 hors on the evening of October 25, 2022. The partial eclipse will be visible in Bengaluru and the rest of Karnataka, if the sky is not cloudy and the horizon is not obstructed, before the sun sets. People are advised to use tested and certified solar goggles or a welder's shade glass #14, for safe viewing. The solar eclipse goggles are available at cost in limited quantity at the curios at the planetarium.

Last partial solar eclipse was seen in 2020

Experts say that the next partial solar eclipse in India would be seen on June 1, 2030, but in this eclipse, only 6.2 per cent of the sun would be covered by the moon's shadow. "This partial solar eclipse can be viewed from throughout India. The magnitude will be different in different places. The next solar eclipse will occur on April 20, 2023, which will not be visible in India," an official added. While one may not be able to see the eclipse from the campus of JN Planetarium, arrangements have, however, been made to show the solar eclipse live from elsewhere, on the Planetarium's YouTube channel (www.taralaya.org).

Scientists from the Planetarium and Cosmos Project being set up in Mysuru by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, will also answer viewers' questions about eclipses between 4 pm and 6 pm on 25th Oct 2022 on the YouTube Channel. **— BMB**

Lights on, action

Fireworks and rangolis, Bengaluru went all out to celebrate Deepawali this year after a gap of two years

PICS: KAUSHIK JN

All's well on the covid front

B'luru may have highest number of active cases among metros, but docs say it is well under control

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Though the number of covid-19 cases have been on a rise in the past few days in Bengaluru, with the test positivity rate reaching as high as 7%, there is a silver lining -- case fatality rate (CFR) has been significantly low in Karnataka. Though the emergence of the omicron variant cases found in other parts of India caused a scare and the state government jumped into action, CFR has been less than 1%.

Amongst the four metropolitan cities in India, Bengaluru has the highest number of active cases with 1,983 active cases, followed by Chennai with 1,652, Mumbai with 986 and New Delhi with 426.

"The variants of concern can only be identified through genomic sequencing. The new variants detected have so far not been severe but could be infectious

KAUSHIK JN

Though experts advise covid appropriate behaviour shoppers at KR Market found it tough to follow the advice during Deepawali shopping

Data from the state war room showcases that in the last seven days, Bengaluru Urban has the highest positivity rate with 7.49%, followed by Ballari and Mysuru at 2.10%.

Despite TPR being high in the city, CFR has been zero.

The CFR in the last seven days shows that 26 out of 30 districts have a CFR of 0% which even includes Bengaluru. Other four districts with high CFR are Mysuru at 1.39%, Dakshin Kannada with 3.45%, Kodagu at 4.35% and Ballari with 4.76%. Infact, Karnataka's CFR as a whole is less than 1% with the current CFR standing at 0.33%, showcasing that there have been minimal covid related deaths in the state.

Under the case fatality rate cumulative district wise, Bengaluru Urban's CFR stands low with 0.91% . "When we look into hospitalisation of covid-19 cases, the numbers have plummeted. People have been more aware about the disease now. The hospitals too know about the best treatment protocol to be given to covid cases and are following the same in both government and private hospitals. The government had aimed to bring down the CFR to less than 1%," said a BBMP health official.

But follow CAB

While experts warned that even if CFR has remained low, it is important for one to follow covid appropriate behaviour. With the emergence of new variants, more genomic sequencing is being carried out.

"The variants of concern can only be identified through genomic sequencing. The new variants detected have so far not been severe but could be infectious. Hence we should follow CAB. More importantly, many have not taken their booster doses despite repeated efforts by the government to even make it free of cost.

Covid deaths have been low but we shouldn't be looking to see another surge. So follow CAB and get tested if any symptoms are seen," said a doctor. The doctor also advised that booster doses can be taken for those who have missed out on it.

IN BRIEF

Biocon founder Mazumdar-Shaw's husband John Shaw no more

Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw's husband and former vice-chairman of the firm, John Shaw died here on Monday.

According to sources, John Shaw, 70, was being treated for intestine cancer.

The cremation will take place at the Wilson Garden Crematorium on Monday evening.

According to the official website of Biocon, John Shaw served Biocon as the Vice Chairman and non executive director of the company.

Born on 1949, he has been a member of the board of directors since 1999. John was the foreign promoter and on the advisory board of various Biocon group of companies.

He had served as the former chairman of Madura Coats Ltd, former finance and managing director of Coats Viyella Group. **IANS**

After-effects of Somanna 'slap'

Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) general secretary Mamatha Gatti on Monday demanded the resignation of Housing Minister V Somanna for allegedly slapping a woman at a public event. The act showed the minister's attitude towards women and he should immediately tender his resignation or Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai should sack him from the post, she said at a press meet here. She alleged that women were facing attacks ever since BJP came to power in the state.

Somanna on Sunday apologised after he allegedly slapped a woman who approached him with a plea. The incident, the video of which went viral, took place when the Housing and Infrastructure Minister was participating in a property document distribution ceremony at Hangla village in Chamarajanagar district. **PTI**

Cracker aftermath: Runaway pets & shivering strays

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

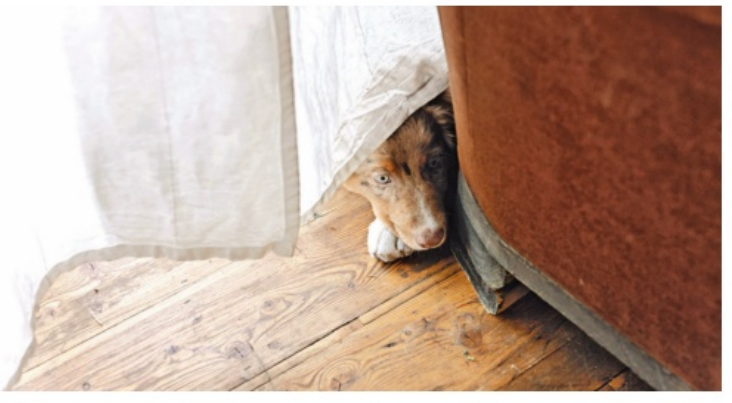
It's that time of the year and animal rescue shelters in the city are gearing up for complaints about pet dogs running away from their homes. The reason is many pets tend to be petrified of the loud sound from firecrackers.

Representatives of animal shelters say that the sound causes dogs severe distress so and it is important to make sure they have minimal exposure to it.

A representative from ALAI, an animal rescue shelter in the city, said, "Every year, during Deepawali, so many pet dogs run away from their homes because of the sound of crackers. We get calls from so many people asking if we have found their dogs. Even on social media platforms, messages are put out about missing dogs."

According to ALAI, dogs tend to get traumatised, some suffer neurologically and might even need to be taken to the hospital. "Except for completely stopping the bursting of crackers, there is nothing that can be done. Keeping pet dogs at home can prevent them from running away. However, for street dogs that is not possible.

They end up shivering, hiding in drains, and keep running," they said. The centre has already found many street dogs who have been traumatised by the sound. "We have also received missing complaints of community dogs who are fed by the people in a community."



Shivappa K, who shelters stray dogs at his residence, said that celebrations are big-time this time. "Stray dogs are getting severely affected because of that. I rescued two such strays who were hiding in a sewage drain next to my house."

Some pet owners have even decided to flee the city with their dogs and go to a space where there is not much bursting of crackers. Romila Ghosh, a resident of Whitefield, said, "My dog is extremely scared of firecrackers. Every time she hears the sounds, she starts whining and whimpering. Even with people inside the house, she does not stop crying. The entire experience becomes very stressful for her. So, we have decided that this Deepawali, we will go to Puducherry as there is no sound of crackers there. We will also be able to make a family trip."

Aastha S, a Dasarahalli resident is taking her pet out of the city too. She said, "Last year, due to the crackers, she stopped eating food for three days. It was very stressful, so this time I am taking her to my friend's place in Goa."

Freedom Park's parking facility: Is it worth it?

Agencies reluctant to maintain multi-level parking facility at a heavy cost of Rs 80 crore

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The parking project was expected to ease congestion on roads around Freedom Park (file)

The multi-level parking facility at Freedom Park may turn out to be an albatross around Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) neck if the reluctance of bidders is anything to go by.

The BBMP had issued the work order to the construction agency in 2015 but the construction of the parking facility at the Freedom Park began only in 2017, and the project was supposed to be ready by the end of 2018.

However, the parking facility, after skipping many deadlines, was finally ready for opening a few months ago. But no contractor has come forward to maintain the parking facility constructed at an estimated cost of around Rs 80 crore. The purpose of the parking facility was to ease the congestion on the roads around the Freedom Park but the inauguration of the park is being delayed as no agency is ready to maintain it.

On October 21, the BBMP issued a short-term tender notification inviting the tenders for installation of smart solution and operation and maintenance of multi-level car parking at the Freedom Park on a revenue sharing basis. It has fixed the earnest money deposit (EMD) at Rs 22.5 lakh and fixed November 7 as the last date for receiving the tenders.

"It is the fourth time we are issuing short-term tender notifications. No one has responded to our earlier notifications. We are waiting for a contractor to maintain the parking facility. We will take measures to open the parking facility for the public as soon as the contractor is finalised," said the BBMP executive engineer (project central-7 division).

It is alleged that many free parking places around the Freedom Park have discouraged the contractors to take up the maintenance of the multi-level parking facility. The other disadvantage is that the parking facility is situated a few hundred metres away from business establishments situated at Majestic or Avenue Road.

> **"It is the fourth time we are issuing short-term tender notifications. No one has responded to our earlier notifications**
>
> –BBMP executive engineer (project central-7 division).

The other impediment is the money needed for installing smart solutions at the multi-level parking. According to reliable sources, one needs a minimum amount of Rs 1 crore for installing the smart solutions at the parking facility.

The parking facility is expected to accommodate around 550 four-wheelers and 450 two-wheelers. The demand for parking of vehicles at the multi-level parking facility is expected to be more only after banning parking of vehicles on six roads around the Freedom Park.

Fear of the flex every time it rains

In Jayanagar, flex boards are in danger of toppling anytime, complain worried residents

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If potholes and poor drainage issues were not enough to worry Bengalureans, residents of Jayanagar now have another item to add to their list of woes every time it rains or a gust of wind blows.

They say flex boards in the area are not only an eyesore, but a risk for citizens as they may topple down whenever there are strong rains and heavy showers.

Anand Rai, a resident of the area, said, "Even though placing these flex boards are banned, people are still putting them up. The flex boards are not placed properly. If a strong wind blows, then it can just topple off and cause injuries to the people walking by. It is not at all safe and action should be taken immediately."

A precariously erected flex board in Jayanagar

The residents also pointed out that the flex boards spoil the look of the locality. Sushmita Adhikary, residing in Jayanagar, added that these flex boards are an eyesore. A residential area is not a space where they should be putting up these things. Kids might get injured and it can also cause damage."

They added that these flex boards are non-recyclable and add to the environmental pollution.

Krishna Muddenath, another resident of the area, said, "These flex boards are not biodegradable and they have to be burnt. When these are burnt, harmful chemicals and fumes will be released causing health hazards for all the residents of this area."

Precariously positioned, these boards are in danger of falling any time, and injuring passers-by.

Mallika Chacko, another resident of the area, explained that one such flex board erected in one of the neighbourhoods has its one end protruding.

"If the pedestrians are in a hurry or if they are not extremely careful while walking then they will definitely get injured by the corner of the board. It putting up the flex boards is so important then they should at least be careful not to put it in a way that will harm the people."

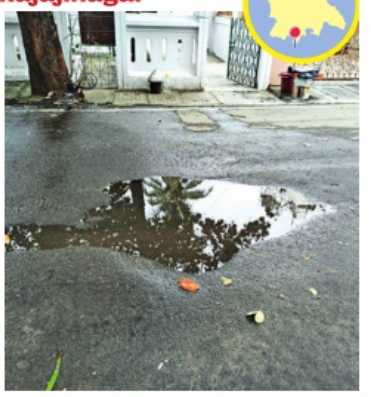
A BBMP official said that he would send an official to inspect the area and do the needful.

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Stinky problem
Austin Town

This area is filled with filthy drainage water and has an unbearable stench. Located at Austin Town Bus Stop, the place has been neglected by BBMP for many months.

Leaking, but who cares?
Rajajinagar


A water supply pipe has been leaking since more than a month. Repeated complaints to BWSSB have gone in vain. Location is 18th B Main Road, opposite 1084/1093, V Block, Rajajinagar.

Pretty only in name
Davis Road

Painting work is done, but who will clear the menace? At Davis Road, near Holy Trinity Church.

Fantastic beasts and where to find them in city

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There is a special buzz at the venue of a film making event in the city. Welcoming the visitors are a great hornbill and a fan-throated lizard made out of waste material. Curious visitors were eager to learn more about the conservation of these species.

This is the first time that Echoes of Earth, one of the most influential wildlife and environmental film-making events, has gone international with one of the hub events being held in Bengaluru.

Echoes of Earth collaborated with a Natural History Production House called Felis Creations in executing this event. The two-day event in Bengaluru was focussing on community and awareness building in nature and wildlife conservation.

The animals chosen for the installations belong to an endangered category and these animals are vital in retaining the food chain and balance to their respective ecosystems.

The Great Hornbill's distribution ranges from Western Ghats in Southern India to the Eastern Himalayas. Due to habitat destruction and poaching this magnificent bird finds itself listed as 'vulnerable' in the International Union for Conservation

Discarded material used to create sculptures of great hornbill, fan-throated lizard at event venue

of Nature (IUCN) Red List of threatened species. Now community-led conservation efforts involving indigenous tribes are now focussing on protecting the Hornbill's habitats and helping the iconic bird flourish once more.

Roshan Netalkar, festival director Echoes of Earth said, "The installation was made using 120 scrapped coconut husks and jute. It was created by installation artist Yadu and his team from Brainsart studio."

The fan-throated lizard is distinguished by the flap of skin under its neck known as a dewlap. It is found in the grasslands of Satara, Maharashtra, where one of the largest wind farms in this region is also located. Due to its limited geographic range it is now classified as critically endangered by the IUCN.

Netalkar added, "During courtship, the highly territorial males are often seen perched on rocks showcasing their dewlap, not only to attract potential mates but also to warn other males contenders. This installation was created using 20-25 kg of discarded packaging material and 5 kg of discarded CDs."

What's the update on B'luru's biodiversity?

Not much if you go by inactivity of BBMP's Biodiversity Management Committee; KBB to follow up soon

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Bengaluru is a city jostling for space along with its many biodiversity hotspots

The Karnataka Biodiversity Board (KBB) will soon be writing to the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), requesting the officials to update the existing biodiversity report of Bengaluru City. This comes after the Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) formed by BBMP remained quite inactive for the last two years.

The report, in the form of the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), was prepared in 2010.

"We will soon be sending a letter to the forest department of BBMP regarding Bengaluru's PBR. The document was created more than 12 years ago but has not been updated since then. PBR should be updated at regular intervals. The committee has failed in updating the document, obstructing biodiversity conservation efforts in the city," said a source from KBB.

According to the Biological Biodiversity Act (BDA) 2002, a BMC must be constituted by every local self-governing institution in rural and urban areas. The committee should then create a PBR, a repository of traditional knowledge of local biological resources.

BM has earlier reported on the delay in creating People's Biodiversity Register for city

Notably, Bengaluru's maiden BMC was formulated in 2009 to investigate and document information for the city's first PBR. The committee then collated the required data and shared it with KBB. However, experts say that the register should be updated at least once every two to three years for a city like Bengaluru and a gap of 13 years is long drawn out. Moreover, since a plethora of developmental activities are going on in the city with a high level of human intervention, it calls for a frequently updated PBR.

"It has been more than 12 years since the last PBR was created. On top of that, it was not done comprehensively. The city has also spread out and now we have a larger area to cover. If we look at the climate crisis that we are all facing, it becomes even more imperative that the exercise is conducted immediately to document the existing biodiversity. There are quite a few biodiversity hotspots in and around Bengaluru that need to be documented," said Akshay Heblikar, BMC member and founder of ECO Watch.

As per the Act, BBMP is responsible to call for the BMC meeting every three months. "The Act clearly says that the meeting has to be convened by the urban local body and it has to happen every three months. However, the last time Bengaluru's BMC came together was in 2020. KBB is just the facilitator of the Act. BBMP commissioner is the secretary to BMC, and they are responsible to convene the meeting," said the KBB official.

According to BMC members, the Palike has been ignoring the

> **KBB has documented the biodiversity of the city and we will not disburse money for the same purpose again**
> –BBMP official

responsibility despite repeated requests. "We are aware the committee has to come together every three months to update the PBR and discuss conservation activities. But, we have been waiting for the BBMP to call for a meeting. They cannot run away from this responsibility, and we will soon be meeting officials to discuss it," said Vijay Nishant, another BMC member and founder of Vruksha Foundation.

However, when BM reached out to a senior official from BBMP's Forest department, they said, "KBB has documented the biodiversity of the city and we will not disburse money for the same purpose again."

Medical insurance for vendors, families

In an attempt to provide quality and accessible healthcare to all, Times Group, Vijay Karnataka and Bangalore Mirror on October 23 organised a special drive in Vijay Karnataka's offices across the state.

At the camp, volunteers provided medical insurance to its newspaper vendors, delivery boys and their family members by registering them to obtain Ayushman Bharat Arogya Karnataka Insurance card.

The officials from EDCS Department were present to complete the registration process. This initiative from Vijay Karnataka helped 2,500 members till date to register across Karnataka.

What's the news?

SRIDHAR KS

Dr CN Ashwathnarayan (Minister for Higher Education, Electronics, Information, Biotechnology, Science and Technology, Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood) visited Bangalore Mirror-Vijay Karnataka office on Monday and discussed about the unveiling of Statue of Prosperity (108-feet Kempegowda's bronze statue); scheduled to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Kempegowda International Airport on November 11.

Freedom to move? Not on this road

Stretch adjacent to Freedom International School clogged with sewage; residents, commuters allege it has been in that condition for a while

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For the students of Freedom International School located in HSR Layout, going to school every day is an ordeal, one that gets worse with time. These children, parents, and other residents who live nearby, say that the road is filled with sewage, and it is very difficult to traverse it. They say that the road has been like this for a very long time and traveling through this road is very inconvenient for everyone.

The road, located opposite the BBMP dry waste collection centre, is right next to Freedom International School, making it a focal travel point for commuters and residents both. The commuters who use this road say that the stormwater drain in the area has been blocked for more than a month and the silt taken out from the rajakaluve left on the road.

Ashish K, a commuter, said, "Because of all the blockages, the water collects on the side of the roads. This is very unhygienic for everyone who is using this road. The silt has been on the side of the road for so many days and still no one has taken any action or any step to clear it. It causes a lot of inconvenience for us commuters."

Raveena Shetty, a parent whose child studies in Freedom International School, added that many children study there and it is very difficult for all of them to use the road because of the filthy water. It is a health hazard for everyone specially the small children. They can get all kinds of infection because of this. The mosquitoes will also start breeding there, causing all kinds of diseases. The commuters say they invariably get stuck on the stretch because of the stagnant water.

"The road is quite wide but because of the water on both the sides, the space on the road has reduced. Since it is a busy area, there is traffic congestion as well – Kiran M, commuter

Kiran M, another commuter said, "The road is quite wide but because of the water on both the sides, the space on the road has reduced. Since it is a busy area, quite a lot of people use it and because of that, there is traffic congestion as well. Something should be done to clear the space otherwise it is getting difficult every single day for all of us."

The commuters have also said that during rains, the situation of the place worsens. Vijay Ashokan, another commuter, said that a lot of people commute through this area because their children study in this school so it is very important to clear this area as soon as possible. Whenever it rains, the chaos that is caused cannot be explained. So many complaints have been made still no step has been take to clear the area. A BBMP official said that they would soon start the work in the area.

Plant lives matter

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

employment for more than 60 people. I used to send flowering and fruiting plants worth Rs 3 lakh to Rs 4 lakh to this nursery for sale, every month. The closure of the nursery will be a big loss for me," said TP Venkatesh, a nursery owner.

Ravi P, who owns two nurseries, said the closure of the nursery at Lalbagh would affect nursery owners and people working at various nurseries. "I used to get Rs 20,000 to Rs 30,000 from the sale of plants every month depending on the demand. Our family depends on the income," said Ravi.

Meanwhile, Bengaluru south district BJP president Ramesh NR wrote a letter to the minister for horticulture Munirathna appealing to direct the horticulture department to take measures for renewing the contract between the department and TNCSL.

"The closure of the nursery will affect around 350 nurseries and more than 2,000 people working at these nurseries," Ramesh said.

The notice issued by the department of horticulture to the TNCSL states that the latter failed to clear the dues even though the land was leased to it at a concessional rate.

"The Nurserymen Cooperative Society Limited and Mysore Udyana Kalasangha have failed to work for the welfare of farmers. Measures have to be taken to withdraw employees sent to the TNCSL and Mysore Udyana Kalasangha; buildings allocated to these two organisations have to be vacated," stated principal secretary of horticulture department in a letter sent to the director of horticulture (Lalbagh).

Meanwhile, TNCSL vice president Govindu said the department of horticulture has not renewed the land lease since 2016. "We have requested the department to renew the lease but it did nothing during the last six years. There are plants worth more than Rs 1 crore at the nursery locked up by the department of horticulture. Many livelihoods will be lost if the nursery remains closed," said Govindu.

PG-NEET '22: Seat matrix for in-service docs quashed

The High Court of Karnataka quashed the state government notification issued on October 6, 2022, in which, seats earmarked for in-service candidates from PG-NEET examination 2022 was reduced from 30 per cent to 15 per cent.

The HC, however, said the "State Government shall be at liberty to prescribe the quota for in-service candidates afresh while taking into account relevant criteria and fill up the seats."

The HC in its judgement also mentioned what a relevant criterion for the quota is. "The relevant criteria is the number of seats as well as the number of in-service candidates who have qualified to participate in the counselling. The in-service candidate needs to have a better ratio of choice. For the preceding year, the ratio of choice for in-service candidates was better and the ratio of choice in respect of seats was 1:5 i.e, 1 candidate had the option of choosing 1 out of 5 available seats, which has been reduced to this year to virtually 1:1 ie, a candidate has to choose 1 seat which is available. The quota for in-service candidates has been reduced without assigning any cogent reasons and the decision appears to have been taken in a casual and cavalier manner."

The government quota is for doctors who are already serving in government service across Karnataka.

The court made this order in a batch of petitions filed by in-service candidates. They had pointed out that another division bench of the court in a related order on October 14, had passed an interim order that "when 30 per cent of seats were reserved for in-service candidates on 09-01-2022 there appears to be no justification for reducing the same to 15 per cent."

Despite the interim order the Karnataka Examination Authority had announced the notification and published the first round of allotment.

"The only explanation offered on behalf of respondents is that the numbers of seats are more than the number of candidates. However, the aforesaid reason is not forthcoming from the minutes of the meeting dated 29-09-2022," the division bench of Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice S Vishwajith Shetty said in their judgement on October 21.

The respondents in the petitions were the State of Karnataka, the Directorate of Medical Education, Commissionerate of Health and Family Welfare and the Karnataka Examination Authority.

"The impugned notification dated 06-10-2022 suffers from the vice of non-application of mind and is arbitrary," the HC said, quashing the notification. The seat matrix dated 09-10-2022 issued by the Director of Medical Education was also quashed. **PTI**

After the deluge

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

After an inspection was carried out at RMZ Ecospace along the ORR, it was found that the main reason for flooding was three small diameter pipes, which were laid 20 years ago by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA). These pipes were simply not equipped to carry a huge volume of rainwater runoff. A rajakaluve inside RMZ Ecospace, covered with slabs, restricted the flow of water as well. As a temporary measure, the BBMP decided to add in a pipe which could connect the two rajakaluves at the layout that could help in the easy flow of water.

Clement Jayakumar from Mahadevapura Task Force - Jal Shakthi further explained the interventions carried out: "There are two rajakaluves running on either side of the Ecospace IT Park. One of the rajakaluves stops at ORR; there are three pipes which cross the ORR reaching the roadside drain and join the next rajakaluve on the opposite side. Since the three pipes didn't have the capacity to take a huge volume of water, it caused rainwater to overflow onto the Ring Road. A new pipe of 1.2 m diameter has been installed which connects to the rajakaluve near JW Marriott; this would help improve the water flow significantly. As a long term measure another culvert across ORR will be built by the BBMP storm water drain department to ensure a permanent resolution for flooding. All water will reach Bellandur canal without causing flooding anywhere," said Jayakumar.

The temporary interventions carried out were completed on October 16; currently the road restoration work is in progress. Due to intermittent rain, the asphalting work is progressing and shall resume soon to be completed in a week's time.

HEALTH TIP: According to research, emotions of loneliness are associated with a dramatically increased risk of acquiring type 2 diabetes

According to a study, a handful of almonds every day greatly improves butyrate synthesis, a short-chain fatty acid that benefits gut health

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BEAT THE CHANGE, NATURALLY

The way you eat can affect how you cope with menopause

Perimenopause starts way before your periods stop," explains British nutritionist Karen Newby. While every woman's experience at this time of life is different, Karen believes that what we eat and how we eat can have a direct impact on our symptoms.

Indeed, only last year a US study showed that a change in diet resulted in an 84% drop in the troublesome side effects hormone changes can bring. Whatever stage of life you're at right now, Karen's advice is certainly food for thought...

END BRAIN FOG

A foggy head can be exacerbated by out-ofbalance gut bacteria, especially if you suffer from recurrent thrush. So feed your second brain - the

- Avoid too much sugar - the brain finds it hard to deal with. Instead, aim to eat at least 30 different plant-based items per week.
- Eat rosemary to boost your memory.
- Antioxidants protect the brain - good sources are artichoke, basil, berries, celery, citrus fruits and turmeric.
- B vitamins or "memory vitamins" are found in eggs, cereals, brown rice, chicken, fish, asparagus and dark green vegetables.
- Be wary of how gluten and dairy can have an opioid-like effect on the brain.

REDUCE FLUSHES WITH COOLING FOODS

Hot flushes are down to oestrogen, which affects body temperature control, but blood sugar levels can be a culprit too. The body releases adrenaline to bring the blood sugar up, but at the same time this can dilate our blood vessels - hence the hot flush. • Try cooling foods: tofu, chicken, egg, apples, pears, lemon, sage tea, millet, cucumber, celery, peppermint tea, green juices. • Also, start a hot flush diary to help you spot triggers.

CONTROL YOUR BLOOD SUGAR

Oestrogen helps stabilise blood sugar, so cravings can worsen during perimenopause as oestrogen dips. Stay one step ahead to avoid the rap of emotional eating. • Fast for 12 to 14 hours overnight and micro-fast between main meals. • Don't skip breakfast - eat earlier in the evening to feel hungrier on waking. Breakfast is the time to refuel for energy. • Eat protein and some beneficial ats at every meal. • Avoid fake sugar. Aspartame, xylitol and stevia can be over 180 times sweeter than sugar, tricking the body into thinking it's getting something sweet, when nothing arrives, which creates further craving.

INFLAMMATION STOP

Oestrogen is a natural anti-inflammatory steroid hormone. Lack of it can cause aches and pains. Put out the fire of inflammation through diet and lifestyle... • Reduce pro-inflammatory omega-6 foods, like meat, dairy, refined vegetable oils (use olive oil instead) and processed foods. • Up your omega-3 foods instead, from oily fish and, as a vegan source, from algae. Also linseeds/ flaxseeds, hemp oil and nuts such as walnuts. • Reduce alcohol, refined sugar and gluten, which all have an inflammatory effect.

LOWER STRESS

Nourishing your adrenals is vital at midlife to support the weaker form of oestrogen and progesterone as ovaries start to quieten. It can also boost your resilience to stress. Adrenals love... Vitamin C: green leafy vegetables, parsley, citrus fruits, peppers, kiwis, dark berries. B5: egg yolk, broccoli, fish, shellfish, organic yogurt, legumes. B6: broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, cauliflower, kale, nuts, pumpkin, spinach. Protein: eggs, brown rice, oily fish, tofu, pulses, quinoa. Magnesium: black beans, pumpkin and sesame seeds, green leafy vegetables, almonds, spinach, Epsom salts.

TOP TIP

Certain adaptogens [herbs or mushrooms that contain health benefits] numb the stress response. Good sources are maca, turmeric, rhodiola rosea, liquorice (tea) and ashwagandha.

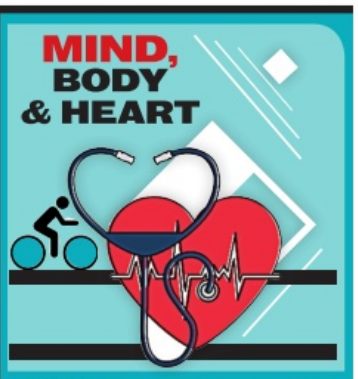
LIMIT YOUR CAFFEINE FIXES

Only drink caffeine with breakfast. It puts us into fight-orflight mode and elevates cortisol and adrenaline levels. So even though your day might not be stressful, having caffeine will make you more on edge. Have herbal teas for the rest of the day or water, instead of tea and coffee.

CALM PANIC ATTACKS

Dips in oestrogen can cause heart palpitations, while dips in blood sugar can exacerbate anxiety. Zinc alleviates this anxiety, but remember the more alcohol you drink, the more zinc you use up. Magnesium can also help. It's known as nature's tranquilliser, supporting our "smooth muscles" - which we have no control over - such as our entire cardiovascular system.

—Karen Newby, Daily Mirror



All you need to know about...

Abscess

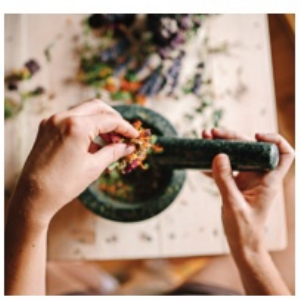
What is it?
An abscess can occur anywhere and is usually due to an infection which can't drain. As a result, pus collects, forming a soft, painful lump often surrounded by redness.
Abscesses under the skin are quite common but less so are internal abscesses inside organs or the spaces between them.

What are the symptoms?
Very often with a skin abscess you can see the yellow pus through a swollen lump under the surface of the skin. Without treatment you may develop a fever. With an abscess inside the body there's pain in the affected area, a high temperature which may go up and down, a general feeling of being unwell, no appetite.

What causes them?
Usually when bacteria multiply in the body your immune system overcomes the infection with white blood cells and antibodies.
With a large collection of pus, however, tissue dies, forming a hole which then fills with pus to form an abscess containing a mixture of dead tissue, white blood cells and bacteria.
An internal abscess may arise as a complication of something else, such as a burst appendix or an ectopic pregnancy.

What's the treatment?
If a skin abscess is small, hot poultices will cause it to burst and drain. A needle inserted through your skin or a small incision in the skin over the abscess will do this too.
Antibiotics may be needed for larger abscesses and internal abscesses, with a drain.

—Dr Miriam Stoppard, Daily Mirror



'Will pass law for SC/ST quota hike ordinance in next Assembly session'

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on Monday said that Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot has given his assent to the ordinance promulgated by the state government to hike the quota for SC/ST communities.

However, Bommai said that the ordinance will be passed in the next Assembly session.

The Karnataka cabinet, on October 20, had approved an ordinance for increasing the reservation for the Scheduled Caste community from 15 per cent to 17 per cent and for the Scheduled Tribe community from 3 per cent to 7 per cent.

Speaking to the reporters in Hubballi, Bommai said, "Governor has given assent to ordinance promulgated by state govt to hike quota for SC/ST communities but it'll be passed in the next session of the State Legislature. The reservation for the backward classes will be decided after the receipt of the commission's report."

The Chief Minister said that the communities are being given legal protection.

"It is not possible to comment on taking out any community from a reservation or including any community under reservation as it has to be decided as per the Constitution and within the ambit of the legal framework. Since the reservation issue is very sensitive, as head of the State, I have to work in accordance with the Constitution and legal framework," he said.

Earlier last week, Bommai tweeted, "Today my cabinet has taken a historic decision of approving the ordinance on hiking the reservation for my brothers and sisters from the SC/ST community from 15 per cent to 17 per cent and 3 per cent to 7 per cent. This historic decision will bring light and shine into their lives and uplift them by providing adequate opportunities in education and employment."

The Cabinet meeting had decided to implement the increase in reservations for Scheduled Castes and Tribes through an ordinance. The ordinance is aimed at providing reservation of seats in educational institutions in Karnataka and of appointments or posts in the services under the state for the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The gazette notification said the number of castes increased drastically after the inclusion of some more communities.

The total population of SCs and STs in the state went up by leaps and bounds, it added. The notification further said in 1976 as per the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Orders (Amendment) Act, 1976 (Central Act 108 of 1976), the geographical limitations attached to the castes were removed which also led to extraordinary increase in the population of SCs and STs in the state. **– Agencies**

Worship digital route: Payments go online

Muzrai department plans to enable digital transactions at all temples under it

Sridhar Vivan
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With digital transactions becoming a norm, how can temples be left behind? Many temples in the city and State have started to accept digital payments.

The Muzrai Department is now planning to enable digital transactions at all the temples (which fall under the department). As per the plan, digital scanner images are being posted across the temple where the devotees can scan the images to offer their donations to e-hundi directly. Minister for Muzrai, Hajj and Waqf Shashikala Jolle said, "I have instructed the officials to implement the e-Hundi concept in the temples. The digital transfer will be helpful for bringing transparency for administrative purposes and this also beneficial for audit purposes as well."

Under this scheme, every digital offering is directly deposited into the bank account of the temple. The digital payments is not just limited to hundi offering as many of the pooja services are also accepting digital payments as well.

There are 201 A grade temples under the Muzrai department in the State. The cumulative revenue from each of these temples is to the tune of Rs 25 lakh per year. Around 139 temples have been classified as B grade temples where each temple's annual revenue is pegged at Rs 5 lakh. There are 34,233 C grade temples where the annual revenue in each of the temples is less than Rs 5 lakh.

The Muzrai Department officials say that this will be a win-win situation for both the devotees and administration.

e-Hundi at Mangaladevi temple in Mangaluru

> **"Offerings are a major source of revenue for the temples. They use these resources for management of temples and for expenses** – An official

"The temple offerings are a major source of revenue for the temples. The temples use these resources for management of temples and for expenses. During covid, we found that the revenue in most of the temples was hit as the temples were shut for a long time. Then, the devotee rush gradually increased. However, with many shifting to digital payments, use of cash has decreased and this could be seen in the hundi collections as well as most of the temples reported lesser collections," said an official.

He said that during interactions with devotees, they realised that many wanted the option of digital payments. "Digital payments are also helpful for us as the amount gets credited in the bank account and we can get daily collection data. Earlier, we used to fix a day for hundi collection and pay an extra amount for hundi collection. Now, thanks to acceptance of digital payment, the count gets easier. Earlier, we have seen many of the devotees were dropping demonetised currency in hundi and these notes were of no use. So, now we these problems will be also be solved. However, this doesn't mean that all the collections will be in digital format only as there will still be an option for people to drop hard cash in hundis too," the official said.

Devotees also appreciated the futuristic idea. "Many of us have stopped using wallets after digital wallets became popular. Only when we reach the temple, we realise that we have not brought money to drop in hundi.

I was always wondering how nice it would have been to have a digital transaction platform. Now, we are seeing that most of the temples are having digital scanning images. This will bring in transparency as well," said Devanand K, a data analyst.

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Tourism Minister in soup over pricey gifts

Karnataka Tourism Minister CP Yogeshwara (**pic**) has landed into a fresh controversy after he lavished the elected members of his constituency with expensive gifts.

The Tourism Minister distributed two sets of boxes, one for municipal corporation members and the other for gram panchayat members.

The gift box which was sent to the municipal corporation members contained Rs 1 lakh cash, 144 g gold, 1 kg silver, a silk saree, a dhoti and a dry fruit box.

The gram panchayat members received comparatively lesser cash but no gold, and rest of the items that were given to the members of

municipal corporation.

He landed into the controversy as he was following the Diwali ritual of exchanging sweets and gifts to mark the occasion.

'HDK for CM'

The BJP MLC M Chidanand Gowda has said that he would be happy if JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy becomes the chief minister of Karnataka.

"Our community (Kunchitiga) should also be included in the list of Other Backward Class (OBC) with the Centre. If Kumaranna (HD Kumaraswamy) becomes the next Chief Minister, I will be the first person to be happy," BJP MLC M Chidanand Gowda said while sharing the stage with HD Kumaraswamy and Nanjavadhuta Swamiji.

Addressing a public event at Kunchitiga-Okkaliga convention in Hulikunte village of Tumakuru, MCL Gowda had also mentioned that whosoever becomes the chief minister should include the Kunchitiga community in OBC list. **– Agencies**

British PM-elect Rishi Sunak promises 'stability and unity'

First Hindu PM of Indian heritage, Sunak is also youngest for around 200 years

#London

Indian-origin Rishi Sunak, who will take over as Britain's prime minister from Liz Truss, on Monday promised "stability and unity" as his priority.

The former chancellor, who won Tory leadership contest on Monday, is poised to walk through the door of 10 Downing Street in London after an audience with King Charles III in Buckingham Palace, which is likely to be on Tuesday. Besides being the first Hindu Prime Minister of Indian heritage, Sunak is also the youngest for around 200 years at 42 years.

In his first address as Tory leader soon after the result was declared, Sunak said his priority would be to bring the country together and said he was "humbled and honoured" to get the "greatest privilege" of his life to give back to the country "I owe so much".

"The UK is a great country, but there is no doubt we face a profound economic challenge," said Sunak from the Conservative Party headquarters near Parliament in London.

"We now need stability and unity and I will make it my utmost priority to bring our party and our country together; because that is the only way we will overcome the challenges we face and build a better, more prosperous future for our children and our grandchildren," he said.

"I pledge that I will serve you with integrity and humility and I will work day in day out to deliver for the British people," he said.

Sunak was in a comfortable lead securing public backing of over half the 357 Tory MPs - way above the 100 mark

The former finance minister was comfortably in the lead, having secured the public backing of over half the 357 Tory MPs - way above the 100 minimum required to make the shortlist.

In time for the 2 p.m. local time Monday deadline, Sir Graham Brady, chair of the influential 1922 Committee of backbench MPs, announced in the Parliament complex that he had received only one "valid" nomination and therefore Sunak is the winner of the leadership contest. "I am asking you for the opportunity to help fix our problems," said Sunak, in his latest campaign pitch, with reference to the economic turmoil he is inheriting following Truss' disastrous tax-cutting mini-budget last month.

Sunak was runner-up in the last leadership race, securing the highest backing from MPs but losing out to Liz Truss after the vote went to Tory members.

The outgoing PM won on a mandate to slash taxes to spark economic growth, but she was forced to U-turn on almost all of her economic policies after her mini-budget sent the markets into financial turmoil and the Pound Sterling crashing. Last week, she dramatically resigned and triggered another Tory leadership race, this time expedited by the 1922 Committee given the urgency of the economic climate. **PTI**

Rishi Sunak gestures as Conservative MPs greet him at the Conservative party Headquarters in London, on Monday

India cheers on

Rishi Sunak, the former British Treasury chief who won the race to be leader of the Conservative Party and is likely to become the country's next prime minister, is getting cheers from an unlikely place: India, its former colony.

As the news became clear Monday, social media and TV channels in India were awash with comments and reactions to the accomplishment by the 42-year-old who has spoken publicly about his Indian roots and Hindu faith.

For many Indians, who are celebrating Diwali, one of the most important Hindu festivals, it was the moment to say: He is one of our own.

"It is a moment of pride for India that the country which ruled us for many years has now a prime minister of Indian heritage," said Manoj Garg, a New Delhi businessman.

Sunak will be the first person of color to take Britain's top job, an accomplishment reflecting that of Kamala Harris, a woman of Indian heritage who became US vice president last year.

Sunak's grandparents hailed from Punjab state before the Indian subcontinent was divided into two countries -- India and Pakistan -- in 1947 after British colonial rule ended. They moved to East Africa in the late 1930s before finally settling in the U.K. in the 1960s. Sunak was born in 1980 in Southampton on England's south coast.

His ancestral link is not his only association with India. He is married to Akshata Murthy, whose father is Indian billionaire NR Narayana Murthy, founder of tech giant Infosys.

In April 2022, it emerged that Murty, who owns a little less than a 1% stake in Infosys, did not pay U.K. taxes on her overseas income. The practice was legal, but it looked bad at a time when Sunak was raising taxes for millions of Britons as chancellor of the Exchequer.

Nonetheless, Sunak's rise to power in British politics has amped up a sense of pride among Indians.

Indian TV channels appeared star-struck by Sunak's victory, with New Delhi Television running the chyron "Indian son rises over the empire." India Today news channel took a jibe at UK's economic and political turbulence, using the Hindi term for someone of Indian background: "Battered Britain gets 'desi' big boss."

On social media, some said Sunak's selection was particularly special for the country with its recent celebration of 75 years of independence from British

Indian TV channels appeared star-struck by Sunak's victory and social media exploded too with congratulatory messages and more

colonial rule. "Today, as India celebrates Diwali in its 75th year as an independent nation, the U.K. gets an Indian-origin Prime Minister. History comes full circle," lawmaker Raghav Chadha tweeted. Others celebrated Sunak as a "proud Hindu," saying he did not shy away from embracing his faith and Indian culture. They shared videos on Twitter showing Sunak taking his oath of allegiance as a lawmaker in 2020 on the Hindu holy book Bhagvad Gita.

Other videos shared on Twitter showed Sunak praying to a cow, considered holy by Hindus, when he was running for Britain's top job for the first time in August. In a Hindu ritual conducted in London, Sunak touched the cow's feet while his wife offered carrots to it. Sunak also performed "aarti" in front of the cow — a Hindu ritual involving the waving of oil lamps.

Sunak has been public about his Indian origins and love for cricket. He has also talked about his abstinence from beef on religious grounds. "I am thoroughly British, this is my home and my country, but my cultural heritage is Indian," he told reporters in 2020. **AP**

Celebrations at Infosys

The staff at the office of Bengaluru-based Infosys on Monday cheered the news calling the Sunak development "double Diwali dhamaka". There was a palpable enthusiasm among the employees as many sat glued to TV screens. A collective cheer rang out when it became clear that Sunak had the field all to himself. "It is a double Diwali dhamaka for us. We sat before the TV just like we were glued to watch the match between India and Pakistan," Harsha Kumar, a senior software engineer said. **IANS**

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Resonance Designs

DIWALI BLOCKBUSTER FOR ENTIRE FAMILY

PVR CINEMAS {Phoenix Marketcity, 9:15, 12:55, 4:10, 7:00, 10:15 p.m. | Forum Mall, 9:55, 10:20, 12:45, 4:15, 6:50, 10:30 p.m. | Orion Mall, 10:25, 1:00, 4:30, 7:40, 10:30 p.m. | Orion Uptown Mall, 9:55, 12:45, 7:00 p.m. | MSR Regalia Mall, 9:50, 3:55, 7:20, 9:55 p.m. | Spirit Mall, 4:35, 9:50 p.m. | VR Mall, 10:00, 3:25, 4:05, 7:10, 9:20, 10:10 p.m. | Vaishnavi Saphire Mall, 9:50, 1:15, 3:55, 7:10 p.m. | Superplex Vegacity Mall, 10:05, 1:10, 4:10, 6:40, 10:15 p.m. | @ GT Mall, Magadi Road, 1:35, 7:40 p.m. | Aura Cinema, 12:15, 6:55 p.m.} | INOX CINEMAS {Lido, 10:05, 1:25, 5:15, 10:30 p.m. | Brookefield Mall, 9:25, 2:40, 7:55 p.m. | Forum Value Mall, 9:10, 2:25, 7:35, 10:20 p.m. | Garuda Mall, 10:10, 1:35, 5:05, 6:55, 10:10 p.m. | Mantri Mall, 10:45, 1:15, 4:30, 10:10 p.m. | Central Mall, JP Nagar, 1:25, 7:15, 10:00 p.m. | Garuda, Yelahanka, 12:55, 7:25 p.m. | Swagath Mall, 9:15, 4:45 p.m. | Galleria Mall, RMZ Yelahanka, 11:05, 1:40, 7:35, 10:10 p.m. | SBR Horizon, 9:00, 11:25, 2:00, 7:35, 10:10 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS {ETA Mall | Orion East Mall | Royal Meenakshi Mall | Shantiniketan | SJR Spectrum Mall | Sigma Mall} | GOPALAN {Innovation Mall | Arcade Mall | Signature Mall | Grand Mall | Legacy Mall} | INNOVATIVE MULTIPLEX {Marathahalli, 10:10, 2:15, 7:30 p.m.} | KINO CINEMAS {Seegehalli Road} | SWAGATH SHANKARNAG {M. G. Road, 1 Show} | ROCKLINE CINEMAS | ANAND THEATRE {Tanny Road, 2 Shows} | ABHINAY THEATRE {K. G. Road} | SANTOSH THEATRE {RPC Layout, Daily 4 Shows} | VINAYAKA THEATRE {DJ Halli, 2 Shows} | BHARATH CINEMAS {Mangalore | Manipal, 11:30, 2:45, 8:00 p.m. | Shivamoga} | PVR CINEMAS {Fiza Mall, Mangalore, 12:50, 7:10 p.m. | Forum Mall, Mysore, 1:25, 7:15, 9:30 p.m. | Garuda Mall, Mysore, 1:10, 7:25 p.m.} | INOX {Central, Manipal, 9:50, 5:25, 7:45 p.m. | SS Mall, Tumkur, 10:35, 4:25, 10:20 p.m. | Satyam Mall, Mysore, 9:05, 4:15, 7:35 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS {City Centre Mall, Mangalore} | SRINIVASA THEATRE {SG Palya, 2 Shows} | VISION CINEMA {Mysore} | DRC {Mysore, 1 Show} | CINE GALAXY MOVIES {Suratkal} | MOVIETIME {Davangere, 10:00, 3:00, 8:10 p.m.} | TRINETRA THEATRE {Davangere, Daily 4 Shows} | BALAJI DELUXE THEATRE {Bannimantapa, Daily 4 Shows} | JAYALAKSHMI THEATRE {Mandya, Daily 4 Shows} | DIANA THEATRE {Udupi, Daily 4 Shows}.

FOR ANY CHANGES OR CANCELLATION IN SHOW TIMINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE THEATRE

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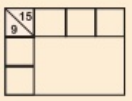
@BangaloreMirror

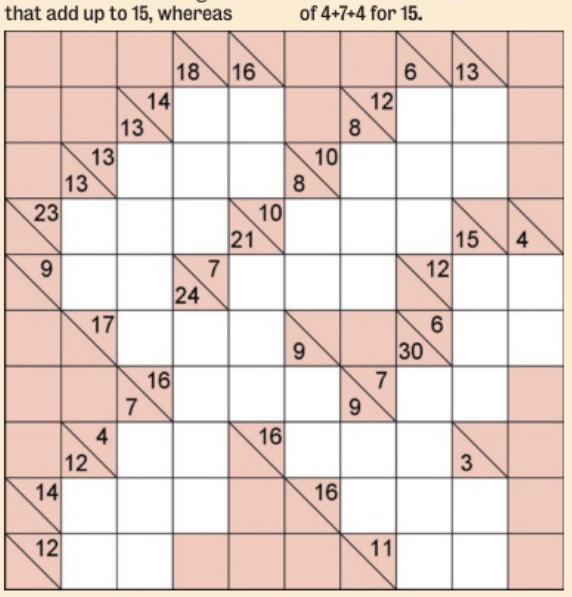
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

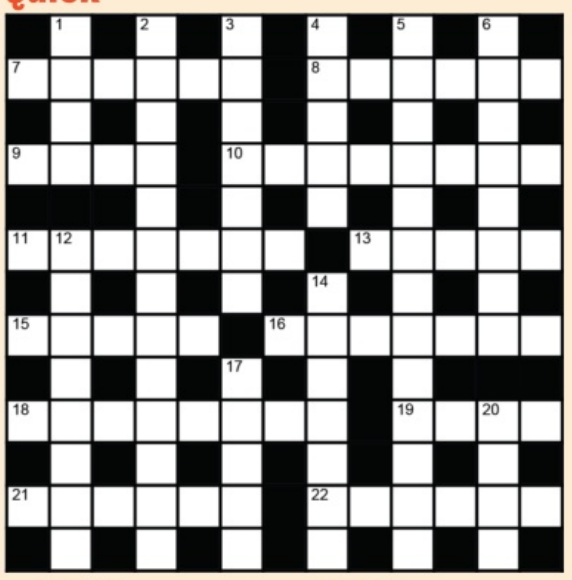


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 African desert (6)
8 Plateau in South Central India? (6)
9 One of the United States (4)
10 Answers or replies (8)
11 Tendered (7)
13 Forebodings or portents (5)
15 An imaginary being (5)
16 Boundaries (7)
18 Lacking reality (8)
19 Sharp taste (4)
21 Stage whispers (6)
22 Ran away to get married? (6)

DOWN

1 Post-WWII alliance (4)
2 Popular event venue in the city (6,7)
3 Cross-country runner (7)
4 Writer of lyric poetry (5)
5 Housing (13)
6 Horticulturalist (8)
12 Intrepid or bold (8)
14 The papacy or papal court (4,3)
17 Hang in suspense (5)
20 Require (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: C EQUALS T

CKR AIVWG CIWRVQCRM EILERXC ZVIH CKIMR AKI QVR MPEERMMZPW, UPC LIC ZVIH QLJUIGJ RWMR.

Linemaro

Excuse me, but did you happen to find my Nobel Peace Prize?

Mindchow

If you are not part of the cure, then you are part of the problem

Joke of the day

Never go to a doctor whose office plants have died

Loop

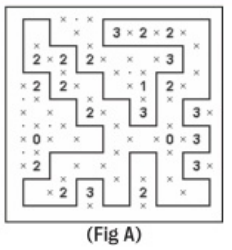
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

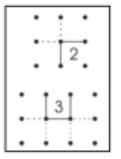
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

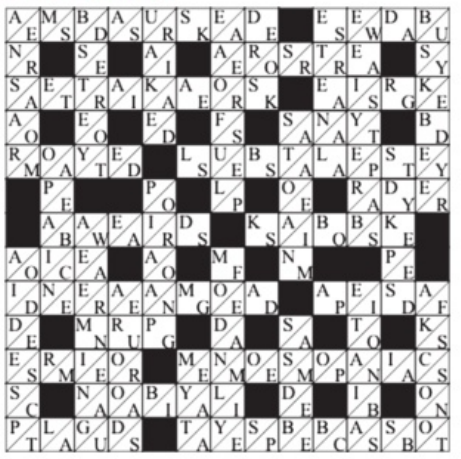


(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed

Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4 B	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

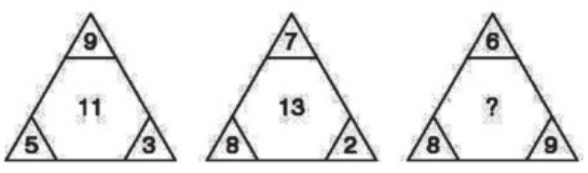
1 Sir BC; 6 Siren; 7 Oasis; 8 CK Hun; 9 Gees I

DOWN

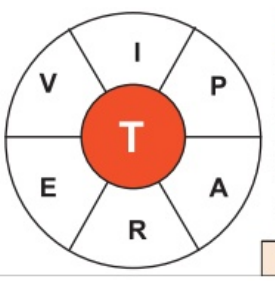
1 Or CCs; 2 Irish; 3 Is use; 4 Begin; 5 Skean

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

19 Average; 21 Good; 23 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				4				
6			2		5			9
4		5				8		3
		1	3	5	8	4		
	4		7		9		3	
		3	6	1	4	2		
1		9				3		4
2			4		6			8
				9				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 9

2 2 4 9

Medium = 48

2 4 6 9

Hard = 7

2 7 9 7

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

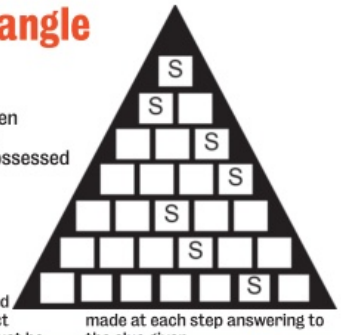
Differences: 1. Tile pattern is different. 2. Arm is not showing. 3. Cabinet is not as wide. 4. Table is not as long. 5. Cuff is added to sleeve. 6. Plate is longer.

Riddler

Before it's born, its skeleton Does grow upon the land Then near the sea it grows and grows Until its form is grand And though it swims upon the waves It dies upon the sand What is it?

Alpha triangle

1 Sulphur symbol
2 Thus
3 Some parties
4 Choral works often
5 Sat for an artist
6 Balanced, self-possessed
7 Get rid of



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

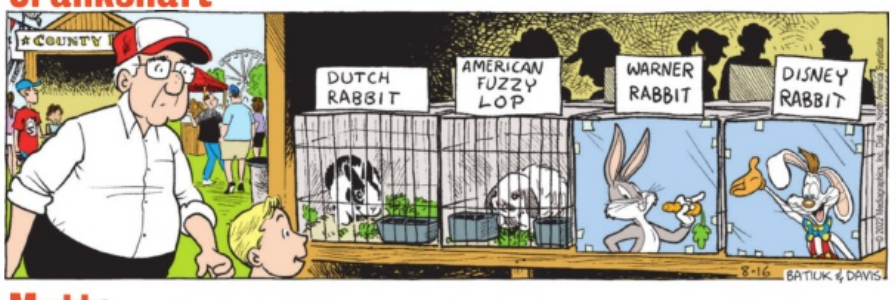
Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

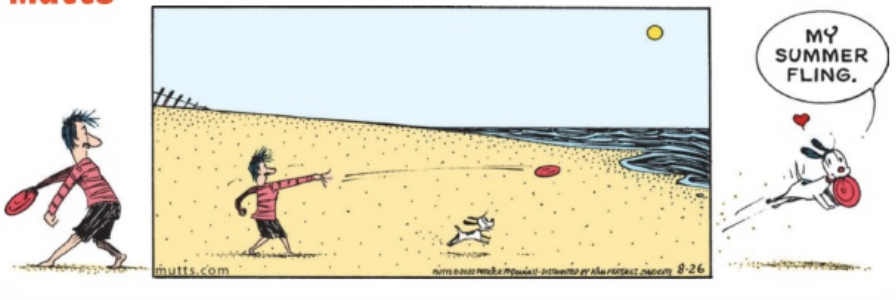
Hart of the city

I FINALLY GOT THE POKEMON CARD I NEED TO ROUND OUT MY TEAM.
IT'S GONNA BE WIN AFTER WIN!
BEST OF LUCK.
COMPETITION'S A LITTLE LIGHT TODAY.
HART OF THE CITY © 2022 ANDREWS MCMEEL
@COMICS.COM/HARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft



Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today you may resolve many problems with your way of speaking. You may also plan for some advanced courses to enhance your skills, which may be beneficial for your career in the near future. Love birds may enjoy romantic moments. You may be able to control your opponents and rivals. You may also plan for a house or vehicle loan.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today you may be busy with kids' academic matters. You are likely to travel for this too. You may also plan for a change in your current job. You may also plan for higher education to enhance your career. You may also hear some good news in terms of competitive examinations. Love birds may enjoy happy moments.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today you are likely to have a change in your place or position. You are advised to read any document carefully before signing it. You are advised to be careful about your parents' health issues. investments in risky assets may lead to losses, so it is suggested that you postpone making any investment for some days.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today you are blessed by the moon, so you may feel energetic. You may make fast decisions in terms of your business. Your subordinates may help you complete your project before time, which may increase your trust factor. Disputes with siblings may be resolved now. Professionals may get some incentives in terms of promotions.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you may have to control your straightforwardness as that can affect terms with the people around you. You may plan to renovate your house and may also spend on artefacts for your home. You are likely to enjoy some social event, which may increase your network. You may also invest some capital in your family business.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today you may be blessed by the moon. After a sound sleep, you may feel healthy and may enjoy your moments. The moon effect may boost your confidence, which may reflect in your way of working. Old health issues may be resolved now. You are likely to help some needy person, which may increase your respect among people around you.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel unhappiness; dull and unhealthy, which may affect your way of working. There may be some delay in your current projects that have to be completed which may lead to defensive behaviour. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or driving in a hurry. Love birds may experience trouble in their relationship.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you are likely to get a big order, which may increase your business. With the help of some influential person, you are likely to get some benefits at work. You may also expect promotions. Job seekers may get a suitable job. You are likely to plan to renovate your house or office, which will enhance your status. You may enjoy romantic moments with your loved one.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today you may be busy at work. Overload at work may make you tired mentally. You may not be able to enjoy some family events or you reach very late, which can affect your domestic harmony. Your efficiency may be praised by your seniors, which may lead to promotion in the current job.

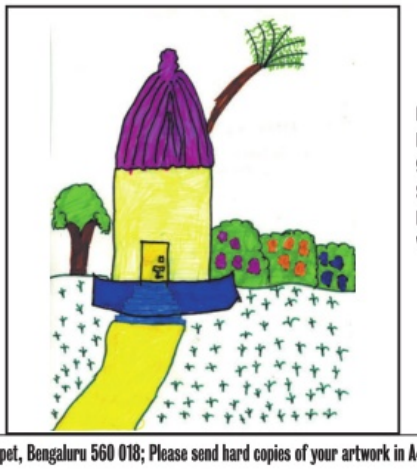
Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today you are blessed by elders. The last few days' crunch may be resolved now. Destiny may favour you. Projects that had to be stopped are likely to start again. Money which was stuck is also likely to be recovered. You may also plan a religious trip with family members, which may increase your inner strength. You may get a chance for an overseas trip or long-distance travel also.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be affected by a negative moon, which may make you upset and arrogant. You may have to be ready for sudden and unexpected changes in your daily routine. Your profits may be converted into losses, so it is advised that you postpone making investments for a few days. You may be in a self- exploration mood, which may show you some realities of life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you are blessed by the moon. Money which was stuck may be recovered now, which may increase liquidity in your business. You may be in a leading position at your office in terms of a project. You are likely to get incentives in terms of promotions. Bonding with the spouse is likely to be improved, which may create domestic harmony.

KIDZONE

Salone, 5 Years, Afwwa Drawing Class



Madhura L, 9 Years, Sree Rama Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
3^30(1+1+1)
3^30×3^1=3^31

RIDDLER
Ship

STRIKE OUT

T	A	G	S	■	T	Y	P	E	C	A	S	T	■	■
S	■	N	A	B	A	L	■	E	■	I	■	O	■	■
E	M	I	R	■	M	N	E	M	O	N	I	C	■	■
D	■	M	U	G	■	A	■	S	■	O	■	S	■	■
D	E	R	A	N	G	E	D	■	P	I	S	A	■	■
O	C	A	■	A	■	M	■	N	■	■	E	■	■	■
A	W	A	R	D	■	K	I	O	S	K	■	■	■	■
P	■	P	■	L	■	E	■	R	Y	E	■	■	■	■
R	A	T	E	■	S	U	B	T	L	E	T	Y	■	■
O	■	E	■	F	■	S	A	T	■	B	■	■	■	■
S	T	R	I	K	E	R	S	■	E	I	R	E	■	■
N	■	E	■	A	■	O	R	T	A	■	Y	■	■	■
E	M	B	A	R	K	E	D	■	S	W	A	B	■	■

FAST FIVE

S	I	E	G	E
C	H	U	N	K
O	S	S	I	A
R	I	S	E	N
C	R	I	B	S

QUOTE UNCODE
The world tolerates conceit from those who are successful, but not from anybody else.

QUICK

N	■	P	■	H	■	O	■	A	■	G	■	■	■	■
S	A	H	A	R	A	■	D	E	C	C	A	N	■	■
T	■	L	■	R	■	I	■	C	■	R	■	■	■	■
I	O	W	A	■	R	E	S	P	O	N	D	S	■	■
■	■	C	■	I	■	T	■	M	■	E	■	■	■	■
O	F	F	E	R	E	D	■	O	M	E	N	S	■	■
E	■	G	■	R	■	H	■	O	■	E	■	■	■	■
F	A	I	R	Y	■	B	O	R	D	E	R	S	■	■
R	■	O	■	P	■	L	■	A	■	■	■	■	■	■
I	L	L	U	S	O	R	Y	■	T	A	N	G	■	■
E	■	N	■	I	■	S	■	I	■	E	■	■	■	■
A	S	I	D	E	S	■	E	L	O	P	E	D	■	■
S	■	S	■	E	■	E	■	N	■	D	■	■	■	■

MENSA PUZZLE
5: (6 + 8) – 9.

BULL'S EYE
avert, irate, part, pate, peat, pert, PRIVATE, rapt, rate, rite, rivet, tape, taper, tapir, tarp, tear, tier, tire, trap, trip, tripe

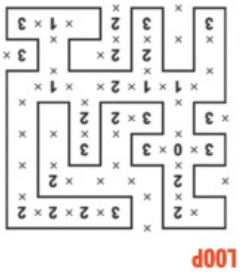
SUDOKU

9	1	2	8	4	3	7	6	5
6	3	8	2	7	5	1	4	9
4	7	5	9	6	1	8	2	3
7	2	1	3	5	8	4	9	6
8	4	6	7	2	9	5	3	1
5	9	3	6	1	4	2	8	7
1	6	9	5	8	2	3	7	4
2	5	7	4	3	6	9	1	8
3	8	4	1	9	7	6	5	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
S, So, Dos, Odes, Posed, Poised, Dispose.

GO FIGURE
Easy
2 – 4 + 9 + 2 = 9
Medium
2 + 4 × 9 – 6 = 48
Hard
2 + 7 + 7 – 9 = 7

LOOP



KAKURO

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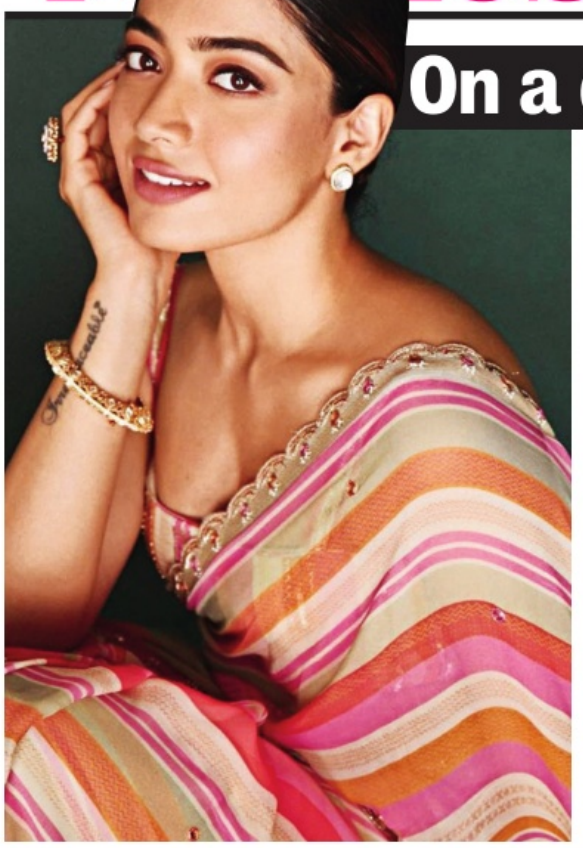
 # Weinstein trial Opening arguments were due to begin Monday in the Los Angeles trial of disgraced Hollywood movie mogul Harvey Weinstein, with five alleged victims expected to take the stand during the two-month case.



On a different path

Rashmika Mandanna is making inroads into Bollywood. The actress who's well-known across south industries, became more popular after Pushpa: The Rise starring Allu Arjun hit screens. For a couple of years, Rashmika has made Mumbai her home too, as she's been in talks with filmmakers for Hindi projects. After making an entry in B-Town with her first theatrical venture, Rashmika is now gearing up for her couple of other releases in Hindi, which will release soon.

From Sridevi to Rajinikanth, there are many south stars who crossed over into Bollywood. So, is there any one inspiration, who pushed Rashmika to do her best? "I have respect for all the stars (who crossed over successfully). I have high regards for them. But, honestly, I don't have an inspiration as such, as my journey hasn't been the same." She explains, "I hail from Coorg (Karnataka) and I have had quite a journey from starting to act in Kannada films, then moving to Telugu movies, then taking up Tamil films and now Hindi movies. So, I sort of haven't met anyone who's had such a journey and so I can't say that he or she is my inspiration." **—Onkar Kulkarni, ETimes**

How B-Town celebrates

Megastar Amitabh Bachchan, who has injured his left leg on the sets of 'Kaun Banega Crorepati 14', launched his Diwali celebrations with a promo of a brand of dates and then wished his followers: "May this year bring you health, happiness, and love in abundance. Wishing you all a safe & joyous Diwali."

If the Big B was having a working holiday, that was not the case with Shah Rukh and also KatVic (Katrina Kaif and Vicky Kaushal), who were all seen at the pre-Diwali bash hosted by Amritpal Singh Bindra, producer of the Gujarati film, 'Maja Ma', featuring Madhuri Dixit and Gajraj Singh. Vicky Kaushal took to Instagram to post a picture of Katrina in a shimmering black saree. The picture of the day clearly was that of Deepika Padukone sporting a stunning translucent blouse that sat on her like an ornament. **— IANS**

Elli has a dream

Actress reveals which director she would love to work with

Elli AvrRam, who impressed Tamil audiences with her performance in the recently released Tamil film 'Naane Varuven', with actor Dhanush in the lead, said that her dream is to work in a film by ace director Selvaraghavan that has a script that is female-oriented.

Talking to a news agency, Elli said: "The way Selvaraghavan directs is simply fantastic. He makes you discover yourself as an actor, be it a physical scene or an emotional scene.

"It is a pleasure to work with a filmmaker who can actually see what you are capable of - even those skills that you are unaware of yourself."

The actress, who hails from Sweden but who fell in love with India and Indian cinema right from the time she was a child, said that working with Selvaraghavan has been a huge learning experience. "I have grown so much more as an actor after working with Selvaraghavan," she said, disclosing that she learnt from the ace director how one should shift one's look in front of the camera to make it appear beautiful on screen. "Selvaraghavan would perform the scene and show you how it is done. He is a genius," she added.

Elli, who was also seen in the Hindi film 'Goodbye' along with Bollywood Superstar Amitabh Bachchan and Rashmika Mandanna, will next be seen in director Vikas Bahl's 'Ganpat', featuring Amitabh Bachchan and Tiger Shroff in the lead." **—IANS**

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Laughter is the best medicine

Comedy lovers, get ready for a good laugh as RC Brothers with Tabala Nani and Kuri Prathap in the lead roles promises to make you do just that. RC Brothers revolves around hilarious incidents between two brothers. "RC Brothers is my 125th movie. It highlights the hilarious disputes between two brothers. I am the elder brother while Kuri Pratap is the younger. Being unemployed, I find it tough to get married while many parents are ready to give their daughters to my brother who works as a police constable," said Tabala Nani.

Calling the movie an out and out comedy, director Prakash Kumar said he is debuting as a director with this movie. "The USP of this movie is the dialogues written by Tabala Nani," said Prakash Kumar.

RC Brothers has two producers and one of them is an advocate. "I am an advocate but I did a course in film direction at Tent Cinema Film School of Nagathihalli Chandrasekhar. Tabala Nani is my friend. I agreed to bankroll this movie because of him," said Mani Shashank.

Girish, the other producer of this movie, said that his wife is passionate about making movies. "It is a complete family entertainer," he said.

Article 370 -- Before and after on screen

Following the footsteps of The Kashmir Files, a Kannada movie – Vidhi Article 370 – will attempt to narrate the tragic and violent incidents that took place in Jammu and Kashmir before Artice 370 was revoked and after it.

Vidhi Article 370 was released by a few retired Army Officers and Kashmiri Hindu Cultural Welfare Trust chairman RK Mattoo at a function held at Renukamba Theater, Malleswaram.

"I came to Bengaluru in 1990. People of Karnataka are good. They looked after us well. Then, 800 to 850 Kashmiri pundits were murdered. People of Kashmir have been suffering for more than three decades. Earlier, Article 370 and Article 35A were separate," Mattoo said.

Retired Army officer Prahlad V Kulkarni said he joined the Army when he was 16 years old. "We worked very hard in Jammu and Kashmir. The revocation of Article 370 is a good initiative," said Prahlad.

According to director Shankar, the shooting of the movie was held in Madikeri, Chikkamagaluru and at some important locations of Kashmir.